

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 97-3-24**

Date Prepared: March 20, 1997

For Work Week Commencing: March 24, 1997

Business Meeting Date & Time: March 24, 1997, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction *This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, placed on the state electronic bulletin board, and posted to the PSC's world wide web site at <http://www.psc.mt.gov>.*

Place of Meetings *All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.*

Inquiries *General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.*

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities *Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission Secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.*

Work Sessions *All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).*

1. Max-Tel/AMCOM Docket D97.2.31 - Discuss/act on motion for interim approval and/or to expedite process (3/25/97)
2. FCC Universal Service - Discuss interstate only versus combined fund and other universal service issues (3/25/97)
3. The Commission's continued discussion of Electric Industry Restructuring and various legislation pertaining to customer choice in electricity and natural gas industries (3/25/97)
4. Weekly Scheduling Meeting - Will be held following the 9:00 a.m. Legislative work session on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items *All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.*

1. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.3.38 (Nina)

On March 5, 1997, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 97-11, "Multi-Product Spring Promotion," introducing a promotional offering of several residential and business services as follows: 1) to waive the applicable non-recurring charge and the first month's recurring charge for Business Voice Messaging, Residential Voice Messaging, Installation of U S West Receptionist Service for both business and residential customers, Call Forwarding Products for business customers; and 2) to waive the non-recurring charge for business customers who subscribe to Message Waiting Indication - Audible, Visual, or Audible /Visual. These promotions are available on orders placed and/or completed during the promotion period from April 1, 1997 through May 9, 1997. Proprietary financial justification has been filed.

2. MONTANA POWER COMPANY DOCKET D95.7.97 (Jeaneen)

On February 26, 1997, Montana Power Company filed for final approval of the rates for propane vapor service in Townsend. The Company filed a compliance filing according to Order 5867c which authorized rates on an interim basis. A memo and draft order have been circulated, staff recommends approval.

3. US WEST - Docket N97.3.40 (Bonnie)

On March 5, 1997, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 97-13, introducing a usage pricing fee of \$.75/activation for Three Way Calling with a cap of \$6.00/line for any one month. Customers who activate the service during the first 30 days will not be charged.

4. US WEST - Docket N97.3.41 (Bonnie)

On March 5, 1997, US WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 97-14 with revisions to Private Line Transport tariff. The filing eliminates the fee for a changed service date for switched or special access services (\$13.72). It adds a \$100 dispatch charge when a customer fails to notify the company that service cannot be accepted and a technician is dispatched to the customer's premise.

5. US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - Docket N97.3.39 (Vicki)

On March 5, 1997, US WEST Communications filed a promotional offering for the period of April 1 through April 30, 1997, called "Twelve for Ten". The customer is billed in advance for 10 months of service and receives 12 months. The promotion includes the following business services: Business Voice Messaging Service; Caller ID Name and Number and Number only; Call Waiting; Call Forwarding Busy Line Don't Answer (Expanded); Call Forwarding Busy Line Don't Answer (External); and Customized Call Management Services. If a customer pays for the ten months billing and disconnects their service prior to the tenth month, they will receive a refund for the unused portion of the billed charges.

6. WILLIAMS WATER WORKS - Docket D96.10.175 (Scott)

On October 23, 1996, Williams Water Works filed for authority to increase rates and charges for water service to its customers in and around the Phillips Addition of Flathead County, Montana. A Notice of Application and Opportunity for Public Hearing was issued and the Commission received no requests for a hearing. A default order has been drafted. Staff recommends approval.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. CLARK FORK TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC - Docket N97.3.42 (Bonnie)

On March 12, 1997, Clark Fork Telecommunications filed tariff revisions to expand the exchange boundaries for Drummond and Superior and to change the pricing structure of its Internet offering for public schools. Text changes were also made to the Off Premise Extensions offering.

2. ENERGY WEST - Docket D97.3.44 (Eric)

On March 14, 1997, EW filed an application seeking authority to issue and sell not more than 200,000 shares of stock related to its Dividend Reinvestment Plan; 200,000 shares of stock as part of its Incentive Stock Option Plan and 100,000 shares of stock associated with its Deferred Compensation Plan for Directors.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 97-3-31

Docket N97.3.42 CLARK FORK TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. (Bonnie)
Docket D97.3.44 ENERGY WEST (Eric)

New Filings Received in Past Week

D97.3.43 MDU Cost Tracking Adjustment
D97.3.44 Energy West Resources Security Issue
N97.3.45 Advanced Radio Telecom Corporation Notice of Intent to Provide Local Exchange Services